

**REPORT**

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health**

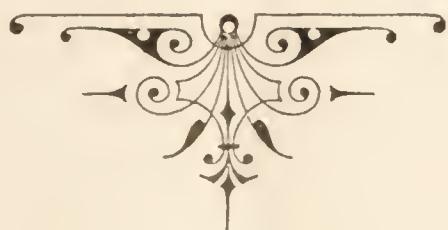
TO THE

**GARSTANG UNION**

**RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

For the Year 1897.

With Instructions for Preventing the Spread of  
Infectious Diseases.



GARSTANG:

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# Garstang Rural District Council.

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## Annual Report, 1897.

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GENTLEMEN,

I beg to place before you my Fifteenth Annual Report. Before reviewing the sanitary work done in your district during the year 1897—the Diamond Jubilee year—I should like to make a few remarks upon the great advances made in the study of Public Health during Her Majesty Queen Victoria's Long Reign. No science perhaps has made greater progress or more valuable discoveries.

LORD LISTER has introduced the "Antiseptic Treatment of Disease," and its value has been more than proved. SIR JAMES SIMPSON has discovered the use of chloroform, and by its means has saved the lives and relieved the pain of the community at large. Sanitation too is reducing the mortality of the country more and more every year as can be seen by taking London as an example. In former times the Death Rate in this city was 80 per 1000; now it is reduced to 19 per 1000.

Deaths from Consumption, when Her Majesty ascended the throne, caused  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the mortality of the whole country, and every year 50,000 subjects died from this terrible disease, about 450 out of every 100,000. Now the mortality caused by this scourge has been reduced to 140 per 100,000, and the disease has also been proved to be preventable and infectious.

The following is a quotation from a statement made by MR. T. W. RUSSELL, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the Local Government Board:—"In the year 1872, 103 loans were sanctioned to Public Authorities for General Sanitary Works, the total amount being £445,000. In 1896 the loans had risen from 103 to 596, and from £445,000 to £2,830,000.

In 1872 total amount spent on Infectious Hospitals in England and Wales £3,970. In 1896, £133,000.

In 1872 £700 was spent in the disposal of house refuse. In 1896 £100,000.

In 1872, 50 Local Authorities adopted a sewage scheme. In 1896, 300, and the expenditure rose from £310,000 to £1,484,000.

In 1896 no less than £3,000,000 was expended under "The Housing of the Working Classes Act."

The above figures show conclusively the great Sanitary Progress and Reforms which have been made in this country.

Since the passing of the Public Health Act, 1875, the Government and the majority of the population now realize the enormous importance of the great Sanitary principles which may be summed up as follows :—Cleanliness of Person, Pure Air, Pure Water, Clean Food, and an unpolluted soil. These are the fundamental principles of your work as a Rural District Council and the objects to which your labours are directed.

### **Work in the District.**

Sanitary progress in Rural Districts is not rapid. It is indeed no easy matter to educate the population of a scattered district like yours to the much needed reforms. The questions might be asked—Where are the fruits of your fifteen years' labour? What is to be seen for the expenditure of your valuable time and of public money? It would require too much space to answer these questions in this report, but I assure you that you have sown and are still sowing seeds which must bring forth abundantly, by adding to the comfort and improving the health of the inhabitants in this district.

Steady and persistent action is required of you, and the important Public Health Acts, if not complied with, within a reasonable time, should be strictly enforced. Firmness in this matter will certainly relieve your already overtaxed Inspector as well as your Council. At no time during the past fifteen years have your legal powers been required more than now.

### **Infectious Outbreaks.**

Twenty-four of the 39 notified cases have occurred in the Townships of Stalmine, Pilling, Garstang and Hambleton.

The Notification Act works well, and its effect in the localization of disease is beyond all criticism.

#### **INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED :**

In Garstang Registration District .....	14
„ Stalmine „ „ .....	18
„ St. Michael's „ „ .....	7
	—
Total.....	39

#### **DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES :**

Scarlet Fever.....	2
Diphtheria .....	3
Typhoid Fever .....	4
Measles .....	7
Whooping Cough .....	1
Membranous Croup .....	1
	—
Total.....	18

## **Scarlet Fever.**

Early in the year a Postman's child at Garstang contracted the disease. This case required and received special care and attention and no other case resulted from it. In Stalmine and Hambleton it was necessary to close the schools. In the latter township Fever of a mild type was very persistent and became epidemic. Printed instructions were distributed and disinfectants supplied.

## **Diphtheria.**

The first outbreak occurred in Stalmine. Sanitary conditions were found very unsatisfactory, and the dwelling was condemned.

In Hambleton Diphtheria attacked five inmates of one dwelling, where the drainage was very bad. Two outbreaks also occurred in Preesall and Pilling, and at both places the drainage was unsatisfactory.

## **Typhoid Fever.**

This disease appeared in Catterall, Great Eccleston, Claughton, Garstang and Calder Vale. Two were imported cases, the others were attributable to Sanitary defects. In Garstang the disease assumed a bad type, causing 3 deaths.

## **Measles**

Was generally epidemic, and several schools were closed in consequence.

## **Notification by Telegram.**

The resolution passed by your Council that the Inspector be informed by telegram of notified Infectious cases, proves a wise one, as it brings infected dwellings at once under infectious restrictions.

## **Closing of Schools.**

I am fully convinced of the importance of closing schools during certain epidemics of infectious disease. The importance of this question is prominently brought forward by a special Memorandum, July, 1897, by SIR RICHARD THORNE THORNE, the Medical Officer to the Local Government Board, and to which I would direct your attention, particularly to Section Eleven, which refers to Rural Districts.

Much may be said against closing schools in populous districts, but in a sparsely populated district like yours much harm may be done and many complications may arise by a child walking to and from school in all sorts of weather, when incubating in some infectious disease. I bring this matter before you because I feel it has a most important influence on the health of the young population.

Whilst on this question of Infection, I cannot help reminding you again of the dangers of farm dwellings becoming attacked by Infectious Disease. It is no unusual thing to find butter and cheese

being made in an infected dwelling, and even by a person in attendance on the patient. The situation is a serious one and is confronted by many difficulties. Possibly a nurse cannot be afforded, or if granted, she is placed in most difficult circumstances as to isolation and hygienic conditions. Then again, neighbours may decline to receive the milk to make the butter and cheese. What is to be done under such circumstances? Are people thus attacked by disease to be deprived of their dairy produce, perhaps their only means of sustenance? and what powers have you to remunerate the individuals suffering in this way?

Dairy products are a prominent agricultural feature in your district. Therefore the more important does the enforcement of Sanitary precautions in this work become. In my opinion there is only one remedy by which to avoid contamination of dairy produce, and that is, by isolating of patients suffering from infectious disease.

The agricultural interest is admitted to be in a very depressed condition, and neither owners nor occupiers are considered to be prepared to carry out the sweeping changes entailed by the "Cow-sheds and Dairies Order." If this Order were instituted it would not effectually combat the questions which I have laid before you.

### **Disinfection.**

This is carried out in the best way possible, but we have no special apparatus. It is a difficult matter to know what to do with the occupants whilst a dwelling is being disinfected, as to do the work thoroughly no person should enter the house for some hours after disinfection has been carried out.

### **Tuberculosis.**

No subject requires more Government attention than Tuberculosis. This is a preventable disease and should be attended to not only because it affects the public health, but also because of its influence on the agricultural interest of the district. Its results on man and beast are almost incomprehensible.

### **Housing of the Working Classes.**

This matter still requires much attention. Many dwellings are in a very dilapidated condition. Pilling continues to build a few dwellings of good type, but there are many others in this township which need replacing by new ones, and unless this is done very shortly, I shall have to ask you to take strict measures in the matter. I have certified several dwellings unfit for human habitation in Garstang, Hambleton, Nateby, Preesall and Stalmine. Legal Notices have been served on some of the owners under the "Working Classes Act."

### **Inspector's Special Report on Garstang.**

The Special Report prepared by the Inspector of Nuisances, by

a house to house visitation is well worthy of your attention, and I trust you will carry out the suggestions it contains in detail, for I fully endorse them, and am quite sure that the general sanitary condition of Garstang is far from satisfactory. I should like to see the scavenging more thoroughly performed, and the pails treated with dry deodorizing material, such as peat, sawdust, or dry earth.

### **Hambleton.**

The drainage and cottage accommodation of this township have received special attention. A special meeting of the Parochial Electors was convened, and the Parish Council has proposed to carry out some improvements ; but as yet no scheme by a competent engineer has been submitted either to you or the Parish Council.

### **Great Eccleston.**

Mr. F. E. Nixon, C.E., of Bank Chambers, Preston, has been appointed Engineer for the Sewerage Scheme of this township.

I hope the proposed scheme will be a good example to other townships, and will combine economy with efficiency and a wise expenditure of public money.

### **Preesall and Knot-End.**

This drainage scheme has now been before you for a considerable time. In April a Special Local Government Board Enquiry was held, which was largely attended by the Ratepayers of the district as well as by the Fleetwood Urban and your Council. An amended plan is now under consideration.

The present condition of Knot-End is dangerous, and I should not be surprised if an epidemic of disease were to break out there.

### **Sewage Disposal.**

The Septic Tank System for the disposal of sewage has been tried at Yeovil and Exeter, and is likely to cause a revolution in this matter, although the system has been refused by the Local Government Board at Staines and Rushden, pending further enquiries.

A Royal Commission is to be appointed to enquire into the Septic Tank System.

### **Barnacre-with-Bonds.**

Here the drainage has undergone important improvements, and a further scheme is in progress.

### **Catterall.**

South View has again been prominently brought before your Council, and I trust something will soon be done to improve the drainage here.

### **Calder Vale.**

This place requires attention, and I hope something will soon be done to improve its general sanitary conditions.

## **Slaughter-houses.**

This matter has occupied much of your time and many improvements have been made; but many more are required. The importance of the question cannot be over estimated.

## **Common Lodging-houses.**

There is certainly a need of good class lodging-houses in the district. Those existing at present are not of good type. There is practically only one lodging-house which is decent and well-kept. A prosecution was instituted and conviction obtained against one lodging-house keeper who persisted in following this calling without a license.

## **Water Supply.**

This question is constantly under your notice, and the importance of it is seen when the Typhoid Epidemics at Maidstone and King's Lynn are considered. Pilling and several other townships greatly need a supply of pure water, and I trust your Council, considering the important clauses gained by it in the recent Fylde Water Transfer Bill, will endeavour to furnish these townships with a good supply.

## **Parish Councils.**

I regret to see these Councils taking so little interest in Sanitary matters. It lies within their power to suggest so much that would improve the health of their respective townships.

## **Isolation Hospital.**

A committee has been formed by whom this question is being discussed. As I have stated in previous reports, this is a most important question, and should receive your special attention.

I herewith append your Inspector's Report.

## **To the Garstang Rural District Council.**

Gentlemen,

I herewith beg to hand you my Report of the Sanitary work in your district for the year ending the 31st December, 1897.

I have visited all infectious cases and carefully disinfected all infected dwellings.

The Lodging-houses have been regularly inspected and are fairly well kept. One of the licenses has lapsed owing to the keeper removing.

The Slaughter-houses have also been regularly inspected, and six out of nineteen, up to the present, have made such structural alterations that licenses may be granted.

Bakehouses, Workshops, Canal Boats and other premises in which persons are employed are periodically inspected.

Building operations have increased over 100 per cent. in your district during the last year, especially in the Townships of Preesall-with-Hackensall, Pilling and Barnacre-with-Bonds.

The sewage works at Bowgreave in Barnacre-with-Bonds still continue to work very satisfactorily.

Number of inspections of premises, &c., made .....	1638
Number of complaints received .....	21
Total number of Nuisances abated during the year ...	214
Total number of Nuisances abated at end of year .....	32
Number of overcrowding Nuisances abated .....	14
Filthy houses ordered to be cleansed .....	3
Number of houses disinhabited .....	6
Number of houses to be disinhabited (notices not expired) 31	31
Removal of animals improperly kept.....	3
Removal of manure improperly deposited.....	8
New Wells sunk .....	3
Old Wells cleansed .....	6
Registered Common Lodging-houses inspected .....	4
Bakehouses inspected .....	4
Premises inspected under Factory and Workshops Acts	11
Canal Boats inspected .....	55
Number of houses disinfected after infectious diseases	32
Schools disinfected after infectious diseases.....	1
Plans received for approval.....	39
,, approved .....	37
,, disapproved.....	2
Representing:—	
New houses approved .....	52
,, disapproved .....	4
,, additions to houses approved .....	7
,, farm and other buildings .....	7
Houses erected or completed during the year.....	42
Houses in course of erection at the end of the year ...	32
Additions to houses completed .....	7
Farm and other buildings completed.....	7
Proceedings were taken before Justices in two cases during the year:—one for a cesspool not being emptied, which was dismissed ; the other against a person for keeping a Common Lodging-house, the same not being registered : conviction obtained.	
Drainage, water supply and all other matters on sanitation in your district are, as in former years, dealt with by Dr. Fisher, your Medical Officer of Health.	
I am, Gentlemen,	
Your obedient servant,	
Garstang,	JAMES COOK,
8th February, 1898.	Inspector of Nuisances,

This Report shows that a large amount of work has been done, and is still in progress.

I now add the usual Tables showing the Births and Deaths Returns.

Population.	Townships.	Deaths.	Rate per 1000
1113	Barnacre-with-Bonds .....	17	12.57
176	Bilsborrow .....	2	11.36
402	Bleasdale .....	1	2.46
179	Cabus .....	2	11.17
336	Catterall .....	6	17.85
575	Claughton .....	9	15.65
65	Cleveley .....	0	0
560	Forton .....	8	14.28
856	Garstang.....	15	17.52
553	Great Eccleston.....	13	23.50
367	Hambleton.....	7	19.07
25	Holleth .....	0	0
504	Inskip-with-Sowerby .....	8	15.87
337	Kirkland .....	7	20.77
395	Myerscough .....	7	17.72
350	Nateby .....	3	8.57
789	Nether Wyresdale.....	7	8.87
721	Out Rawcliffe.....	11	15.25
1480	Pilling.....	19	12.83
896	Preesall-with-Hackensall.....	18	20.08
502	Stalmine-with-Staynall .....	11	21.91
599	Upper Rawcliffe-with-Tarnacre ...	3	5.34
371	Winmarleigh .....	3	8.08
In the Three Registration Districts :			
6134	Garstang .....	78	12.70
3245	Stalmine .....	55	16.94
2772	St. Michael's .....	44	19.36
Total.....			177
			14.56

### Births.

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Rate per 1000
Garstang .....	62	62	124	20.21
Stalmine .....	52	62	114	35.19
St. Michael's .....	26	37	63	22.72
Totals .....			140	24.77
			161	301

Difference between Birth and Death Rate :

Birth Rate .....	24.77
Death Rate .....	14.56

Difference .....

10.21

Infant Deaths under 1 year .....	45
.. ,,, rate per 1000 births...	149.50

The following are the Deaths which have occurred from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases:—

Scarlet Fever .....	2
Measles .....	7
Whooping Cough .....	1
Typhoid Fever.....	4
Diphtheria .....	3
Membranous Croup .....	1
— —	
Total.....	18
Rate per 1000 of Population .....	1.56

Notified Infectious Cases and Birth and Death Rates during past 4 years:—

	1894	1895	1896	1897
Reported Infectious Cases .....	47	24	36	39
Death Rate in whole District .....	12.26	14.73	13.74	14.56
Birth „ „ „ .....	22.46	24.27	21.31	24.77
Deaths from Zymotic Diseases .....	6	4	9	18
Rate of Infant Deaths per 1000 Births	102.56	111.73	108.10	149.50
Difference between Birth & Death Rate	10.2	9.54	7.57	10.21
Number of Births in whole District .....	273	295	259	301
„ „ „ Deaths „ „ „ .....	149	179	167	177
Zymotic Death Rate per 1000 Population	.493	.329	0.74	1.56

Great Eccleston shows the highest Death Rate, being 23.50 per 1000 of the population. The total number of deaths in this township is 13, five of these being persons over 60 years of age and four under 1 year. Stalmine-with-Staynall comes next, the rate here being 21.91. Out of a total of 11. 8 were children under 1 year. Preesall-with-Hackensall has the third highest rate, being 20.08. Cleveley and Holleth register no deaths. The Infant Mortality of children under 1 year is 149.50 per 1000 births is very high and 28 above the average rural rate in the Lancashire Districts last year. Bronchitis and Pneumonia chiefly account for this very high mortality, and is an important lesson to mothers in the care of their children, as these are both preventable diseases.

The number of deaths from Zymotic Diseases is double that of last year. Measles is responsible for nearly half of these.

With these remarks I beg to conclude my Report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

February 9th, 1898.

THOMAS FISHER.

# TYPHOID FEVER.

## Rules for Infected Dwellings.

This disease, which is of an infectious nature, is easily prevented from spreading if proper means be taken to remove the original source of infection, to isolate the patients, and to destroy all the emanations from their person, and I recommend the following rules :—

1.—If a case of Enteric, Typhoid, Gastric or Low Fever (different names applied to the same disease) appear in your house, send immediate information thereof to the Medical Officer of Health for the district.

2.—Have your house inspected by a competent person, and make sure that no sewer or drain gas can enter into part of it.

3.—Have your water supply for domestic use examined, and if in the slightest degree contaminated with sewage matter, immediately discontinue the use of it. Rain water received in cisterns or barrels above ground, and filtered through a common charcoal filter, is always safe. Water contaminated with sewage derived from an infected source is one of the most common causes of this disease.

4.—Let the patient be isolated in a well-ventilated room, without carpets and curtains, and if possible, at the top of the house.

5.—Let all discharges from the patient, especially those from the bowels, be received into a disinfectant ; the most convenient being Calvert's Carbolic Powder. A piece of Gutta-percha Sheetng or Oil-cloth should be placed under the blanket to prevent the discharges soaking into the bed.

6.—The bed and body linen, and all other infected clothing, should be plunged in water containing 8 tablespoonfuls of Calvert's Carbolic Acid to every gallon of water, and afterwards boiled before being washed.

7.—Attendants on the sick should be scrupulously clean, and frequently wash their hands with a disinfectant, and they should carefully abstain from touching any article used for the food of man, such as milk, etc. Their personal clothing should be treated as infected articles.

8.—Any article of food which has been exposed to infection in the patients' room should, when not consumed by the patient, be destroyed.

9.—Every closet in the house, and every ejeot leading into a drain, should be disinfected twice daily by throwing into it a handful of green copperas. As the germs of this disease are most generally disseminated by means of the drains, every system of drains receiving the evacuations of a Typhoid patient should be kept constantly charged with this inexpensive chemical.

10.—As some persons, from peculiarity of constitution, take this disease in an extremely mild form, hardly recognisable as Fever, all

persons residing in a house containing a Typhoid patient, who are suffering from the slightest indisposition, and especially if it is attended with Diarrhoea, should confine themselves to the house, treat their own evacuations as infected, and scrupulously abstain from using their neighbours' closets. Persons of this class are often the means of spreading this and other diseases in public factories where closets are used in common. All such closets should at all times be flushed and disinfected twice daily.

11.—Good ventilation is the best disinfectant of the air of the sick room.

12.—As soon after recovery as the patient is able to bear it, he should take a tepid bath, or be washed with warm water and Carbolic Acid Soap; he may then re-enter the family with safety.

13.—On the recovery or removal of a patient, all floors, walls and ceilings should be fumigated, scraped and cleaned. For fumigating infected rooms and their contents, nothing is better than sulphur. A quarter-of-a-pound of brimstone, broken into small pieces, should be put into an iron dish (or the lid of an iron saucepan turned upside down), supported by a pair of tongs over a bucket of water. The chimney and other openings are then closed with paper pasted on, and a shovelful of live coals to put upon the brimstone. The door is then quickly shut, the crevices covered with paper and paste, and the room kept closed for six or seven hours. After this a thorough cleansing should be effected; everything washable should be washed and all other things be cleansed by proper means.

14.—Any further advice of a public character required for carrying out the above, or other Sanitary precautions, will be given on application to the Medical Officer of health, or Inspector of Nuisances of the District.

# SCARLET FEVER AND DIPHTHERIA.

## Instructions for Infected Dwellings.

- 1.—At once isolate infected case and where possible place in top room of the house.
- 2.—Provide one special attendant, with complete set of utensils for nursing.
- 3.—Strip the room in which patient lies of all carpets and curtains.
- 4.—Let all the discharges of whatever kind be received on their very issue from the body into a disinfectant, such as Calvert's Powder, Chloride of Lime, Carbolic Acid, or Condy's Fluid, and continue this from the first discovery, or even suspicion of Scarlet Fever, until eight weeks from that date, no matter how much sooner the patient may appear perfectly well, and his skin quite free from any remainder of peeling.
- 5.—About the fourth day of the eruption, let the surface of the body be well rubbed with Carbolic Oil daily, but only by permission of Medical Attendant.
- 6.—A large vessel containing Condy's Fluid or Carbolic Acid, in the proportion of from 6 to 8 tablespoonfuls to every gallon of water, should be kept in the room. All bed and body linen, on its removal from the person of the patient, to be immediately placed therein, as the too common habit of carrying the dirty clothing of a Scarlet Fever patient through the kitchen or other room in the house, cannot be too strongly condemned.
- 7.—An infected dwelling should not be visited by neighbours; a habit much too common, and one to be highly deprecated.
- 8.—No room (after having been occupied by a Scarlet Fever patient) should be re-occupied until it has been thoroughly disinfected and lime-washed, and if papered, the paper removed.
- 9.—It is a good plan to place a sheet across the entrance to an infected room, and occasionally saturate the same with a solution of Carbolic and water, same strength as before-mentioned—6 or 8 tablespoonfuls to 1 gallon of water.
- 10.—Perfect cleanliness, both as to the patient and surroundings, is of the highest importance in any infectious disease.
- 11.—No food, liquid or solid (having been once in an infected room) should be used by any other person, but if removed, should be disinfected and destroyed.
- 12.—Under no circumstances should more than one infected person be placed in one bed, and all overcrowding should be carefully avoided.
- 13.—Disinfectants are supplied gratis upon application to the Inspector of Nuisances, and all infected dwellings will be disinfected by him, after the infectious disease has subsided.
- 14.—In case of death, the corpse should be thickly covered with Carbolic Powder, and speedily buried.
- 15.—No child after Scarlet Fever should be allowed to re-enter a school without a Certificate from the Medical Officer of Health or In-

specter of Nuisances, stating that he can do so without risk to others, and this is not usually asked for until the 6th or 8th week be past.

16.—On the recovery or removal of a patient, all floors, walls and ceilings should be fumigated, scraped and cleaned. For fumigating infected rooms and their contents, nothing is better than sulphur. A quarter-of-a-pound of brimstone, broken into small pieces, should be put into an iron dish (or the lid of an iron saucepan turned upside down), supported by a pair of tongs over a bucket of water. The chimney and other openings are then closed with paper pasted on, and a shovelful of live coal is put upon the brimstone. The door is then quickly shut, the crevices covered with paper and paste, and the room kept closed for five or six hours.

17.—After this, a thorough cleansing should be effected : everything washable should be washed, and all other things be cleansed by proper means.

18.—Dogs and cats should in all infectious cases be excluded from the room.

19.—These rules apply to Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria, except that in the latter case the rubbing of the skin with oil is not required.

It is now generally known, under the Infectious Disease Notification Act, that it is compulsory upon both the occupier of the infected dwelling and the Medical Attendant to report an infectious disease to the Medical Officer of Health.

Any further advice of a public character, required for carrying out the above or other Sanitary precautions, will be given on application to the Medical Officer of Health, or Inspector of Nuisances of the District.

### SMALLPOX.

Is to be dealt with in all respects like Scarlet Fever, with the substitution of a dressing of charcoal and olive oil, mixed to the consistency of paint, and applied with a brush. Spots kept covered with this will not pit.

### MEASLES AND CHICKEN POX.

These can be stopped by keeping the rules for Scarlet Fever, for three weeks. There is no occasion for oiling the skin in any disease but Scarlet Fever, but all eruptive Fevers infect clothing and bed clothing.

THOMAS FISHER,

Medical Officer of Health,

Great Eccleston, Garstang.



Table A. TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1897, in the Rural Sanitary District of Garstang.

Names of Localities.	Mortality from all causes at subjoined ages.							Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under Five Years of Age.													
	At all Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards.	under 5	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhea and Dysentery.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Injuries.	All other Diseases.	TOTAL.
Garstang ...	79	19	6	2	4	18	30	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	1	1	5	5	8	1	30	25	
Stalmine ...	54	17	5	3	2	12	15	under 5	1	2	1	1	1	1	6	5	1	8	22		
St. Michael's	44	9	4	1	4	13	13	.....	1	.....	2	1	1	1	2	8	3	2	7	13	
Totals .....	177	45	15	6	10	43	58	under 5	1	3	1	6	1	1	15	19	16	1	31	60	
								5 upwd	1	.....	4	1	1	1	6	19	16	2	67	117	

Table B. Table of Population, Births, and of New Cases of Infectious Sickness coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1897.

Names of Localities.	Population at all Ages.		Regis- tered Births.	New Cases of Sickness in each Locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.								
	Census, 1891	Estimated to middle of 1897		Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas.		
Garstang .....	6134		124	3	8	1	1	1	1	1		
Stalmine .....	3245	Same	114	4	10	2	1				1	
St. Michael's ...	2772		63	4	1		1				1	
Totals .....	12151		301	11	11	2	10	1	1	3		

TABLE (C.)

## COUNTY OF LANCASTER.

## Summary of Medical Officer's Report for 1897.

## RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT OF GARSTANG.

Area in Statute Acres.....60199. Population (Census) 1891.....12151  
 Population, Estimated 1897....same.

Name of Medical Officer of Health.....THOMAS FISHER.  
 Salary, £50

Births registered	{ Male 140 Female 161 }	Total 301	Deaths registered	{ Male 98 Female 79 }	Total 177
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Birth Rate, 24.68. Death Rate, 14.56.

Rate of Infant Deaths, under one year, to 1,000 Births, 149.50.

Death Rate from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases, per 1,000 of population, 1.56.

Diseases prevalent:—Measles, Scarlet Fever, Chest Affections.

Period:—Measles and Scarlet Fever from September to November; Chest Affections more or less all the year, especially in the early months and November.

What Action taken?—Every precaution possible, no Isolation Hospital being in the district.

Any Schools Closed?—Yes. If so, for what Disease?—Measles.

What is the character of the Hospital Accommodation?—None.

How is Disinfection carried out?—Fumigation by Sulphur; Carbolic Acid.

Apparatus used?—Nil.

Is the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act in force?—Yes, since 1889.

Are any Diseases not specifically mentioned in the Act Notifiable?—No.

What is the character of House Accommodation? .....	For labouring classes, very deficient.
Has any action been taken under "The Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890"? .....	Yes. Proceedings pending. Legal Notices served.
Have any houses condemned as unfit for human habitation been closed or demolished? If so, how many? .....	Yes. Six have been demolished. Thirty-one others have been served with notices.
Is the Water Supply good and subject to your inspection? .....	Some townships have water supplied by the Fylde Water Co., others are supplied by wells, which in several cases have been found unfit for consumption, especially in Hambleton.
Is Scavenging carried out satisfactorily? .....	In Garstang only. Not very efficient.
By Sanitary Authority or Contract? .....	Contract.
How is the Refuse disposed of? ..	Carted on to the land.
What is the character of Drainage and the form of Sewage Disposal .....	Very varied.
Canal Boats.....	Regularly inspected.
What is the condition of the Bakehouses? .....	Fair.
Slaughter Houses?.....	Improving.
Lodging Houses? .....	Regularly inspected.
Are they Registered? .....	Yes.
Are the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops periodically inspected?	Yes.
Have any Regulations been made by your Authority under the Order of the Local Government Board? .....	No.
Have the Factories and Workshops been inspected, and with what result? .....	Yes. They are in a fair condition.
Food unfit for Human Consumption. Amount seized? .....	Nil.
Any Special Report of Medical Officer of Health during the year? .....	No.
Department of Inspectors of Nuisances .....	No. of Notices served ..... 244 ,, Nuisances remedied..... 214 ,, Legal Proceedings taken and result. Two. One conviction, one dismissed.
Smoke .....	No. of Observations ..... Nil ,, Legal Proceedings taken & result.. Nil What is the time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke per hour? .... Nil
Has the Authority adopted— (a) "The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890"? ..	Yes.
(b) "The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890"? ..	No.